

# COVID-19 VACCINES for Children and Teens

Although fewer children have been infected with COVID-19 compared to adults, children can:

- Be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Get sick from COVID-19.
- Spread COVID-19 to others.

CDC recommends everyone 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccinated to help protect against COVID-19. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. Getting your child or teen vaccinated can bring you one step closer to enjoying the activities you miss. **Children 12 years and older are able to get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.**

## INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

### Get a COVID-19 vaccine for your child as soon as you can.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- COVID-19 vaccines have been used under the most intensive safety monitoring in US history, which includes studies in adolescents.
- Your child will need a second shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine 3 weeks after their first shot.
- Your child can't get COVID-19 from any COVID-19 vaccine, including the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.
- Your child may get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same visit, or without waiting 14 days between vaccines.

### Prepare for your child's vaccination visit.

- Get tips for how to support your child before, during, and after the visit.
- Talk to your child before the visit about what to expect.
- Tell the doctor or nurse about any allergies your child may have.
- Comfort your child during the appointment.
- To prevent fainting and injuries related to fainting, your child should be seated or lying down during vaccination and for 15 minutes after the vaccine is given.
- After your child's COVID-19 vaccination, you will be asked to stay 15-30 minutes so your child can be observed in case they have a severe allergic reaction and need immediate treatment.

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

On the arm where you got the shot:		Throughout the rest of your body:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pain</li><li>• Redness</li><li>• Swelling</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tiredness</li><li>• Chills</li><li>• Fever</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Muscle pain</li><li>• Headache</li><li>• Nausea</li></ul> 

These side effects may affect your child's ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.

Ask your child's healthcare provider for advice on using a non-aspirin pain reliever and other steps you can take at home to comfort your child. It is not recommended you give pain relievers before vaccination to try to prevent side effects. After you and your child are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, your family can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic.